

F-8-18
William McDonnell House
Mount Pleasant
Private

Circa 1885

The William McDonnell House is significant to the community of Mount Pleasant as a fine frame Carpenter Gothic residence which has remained relatively unchanged.

In 1867 Ezra Cramer sold to William McDonnell the farm on which the existing house now is located. McDonnell lived in the house until after 1873 as shown by the Titus Atlas of that year. But by the turn of the century had built the existing Carpenter Gothic house.

Although the house is a fairly typical example, of particular interest is the dropped pendant on the front gable, scalloped dentil trim, and fishscale patterned slate roof.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC William McDonnell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER
W/S Route 26CITY, TOWN
Mt. Pleasant

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

M 58; P 10

STATE
MarylandCOUNTY
Frederick**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES RESTRICTED
☒ YES UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Nicholas P. Zemo

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Route #1, Box 13

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21701

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Courthouse

Liber #: 498

Folio #: 97

STREET & NUMBER

North Court St.

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William McDonnell House is a two and one-half story Carpenter Gothic cross gable frame residence which faces south from the north side of Route 26 in the town of Mount Pleasant.

The principal facade is five bays wide. The entire building is covered with painted German siding. The main entrance, located in the third bay, is a four panel door with twin upper arched panels flanked by narrow single light side lights with recessed under paneling and a single light transom.

Occupying the remaining bays on the first and second levels are one/one windows with louvered shutters which have been closed shut to cover all the windows on the second level. A small four pane arched window is centered in the front gable.

Extending across the entire front of the building, five bays wide, is a one story frame porch supported by four full and two half boxed wood columns, set in square wood supports, hipped composite roof with plain boxed cornice, scalloped frieze and scrolled brackets. A frame tongue and groove porch is supported by low brick piers.

The main block of the building extends two bays deep with an original two story two bay wide frame addition extending to the rear of the main block.

Located in the first bay on each level on the east and west gable ends of the building are one/one windows without shutters. Two small square four pane windows are located side by side in the top of the gables.

A two story open porch with plain wood columns and railing extends along the east side of the addition. The north end of the porch on the first and second level has been closed in with German siding material to match the remainder of the house in order to accommodate bathrooms.

A four panel door with one light transom is located in the first bay on each level. One/one windows with louvered shutters occupy the remaining bays on both levels.

The entire building is constructed on a low random stone foundation and is covered by a fishscale patterned slate roof with original boxed cornice with return decorated by scalloped dentil work and a small dropped pendant at the top of each gable. Single corbeled brick chimneys straddle the gable on the east, west and north ends.

A tin gable roofed vertical plank wagon shed is located to the rear of the main residence.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William McDonnell House is significant to the community of Mount Pleasant as a fine frame Carpenter Gothic residence which has remained relatively unchanged.

In 1867 Ezra Cramer sold to William McDonnell the farm on which the existing house now is located.¹ A house in which Ezra Cramer and McDonnell later resided was located on the lot by 1858 as indicated by the Bond Map.

McDonnell lived in the house until after 1873 as shown by the Titus Atlas of that year. But by the turn of the century had built the existing Carpenter Gothic house.

Upon his death in 1921, the house was sold² and has changed hands six times until the present owners purchased the property.

Although the house is a fairly typical example, of particular interest is the dropped pendant on the front gable, scalloped dentil trim, and fishscale patterned slate roof.

¹Frederick County Land Records, Liber DSB 1; Folio 147.

²Ibid., Liber 333; Folio 584.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

clh

Cherilyn E. Widell, Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Frederick County Office of Historic Preservation

7/29/80

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

12 E. Church St., Winchester Hall

694-1063

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Frederick

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

WALKERSVILLE
QUADRANGLE

F-8-18

WILLIAM McDONNELL HOUSE

Mt Pleasant

Silver Hill
Ch.

Wayman
Ch.

619
Chestnut Cr.

Wall
Reservoir



F-8-18 William Mc Donnell
House

N/S Rte 26

MT Pleasant

SE ELEVATION

CRW 6/80



F-8-18 William McDonnell
House

N/3 Rte 26

MT Pleasant

SOUTHWEST TOWN

OWN 6/80